

WOMT summary for 3/25/2008:

The Smelt Working Group recommended that the Projects continue operating to a 7-day average Old & Middle River flow more positive than -2,000 cfs.

In light of very low salvage and no larval detection at either facility over the past week, Reclamation and DWR proposed to manage project operations to a 7-day average OMR target of -2,500 cfs, under three conditions. Increases in total project pumping would be limited to no more than 1,000 cfs on any given day. Also, if in the coming week, the combined adult delta smelt (expanded) salvage were to exceed 24, or if larval delta smelt were to be detected at either facility on any two days, then Reclamation and DWR would modify operations to meet a 7-day average OMR target flow of -2,000 cfs within seven days of these events.

Similarly, if the combined adult longfin smelt (expanded) salvage were to exceed 24, or if larval longfin smelt were to be detected at either facility on any two days in the coming week, Reclamation and DWR would modify operations to meet a 7-day average OMR target flow of -2,000 cfs within seven days of these events.

Should the more restrictive target be triggered, the Projects believe that returning to the -2,000 cfs target would minimize the risk to adult delta smelt or longfin smelt in the central Delta from being transported into the south Delta or becoming entrained at the export facilities.